

Hurricane Harvey Response 2017

Community Liaison (CL) Report

Chris Villarreal – Community Liaison Co-Lead

October 3 & 4, 2017

FROM: Greg Valentine, Joyce Johnson, Whitney Bynum, & Sam Porter
SUBJECT: Summary Activity by the Team
COUNTY: Nueces
DATE: 10/03/2017

SUMMARY:

CLs visited multiple hardware stores and churches in Nueces County, Port Aransas, Texas:

- Coastal Hardware (Ace Hardware) – 15326 South Padre Island Drive, Corpus Christi, TX (on same island as Port Aransas). Spoke with the store manager, Jennifer, and provided her with multiple copies of each of our pamphlets and one CD with digital copies of each pamphlet. She also informed us that the Coastal Hardware store in Port Aransas lost its roof and is now being rebuilt. We stopped by this store (see description below).
- Zarsky Lumber – 2120 TX-361, Port Aransas, TX. Store is closed due to damage sustained from Hurricane Harvey.
- Coastal Hardware – Port Aransas, TX. The store was closed and there was a lot of activity by construction contractors at the site. An Ace Hardware semi-trailer was parked in front of the store and a POD was also near the front of the store. A tarp covered the roof of the back of the store.
- Trinity by the Sea Episcopal Church – 433 Trojan Street, Port Aransas, TX. Spoke with Reverend James Denkits, and provided him with numerous copies of our pamphlets and one copy of the CD.
- Port Aransas Church of Christ – 205 East Brundett Avenue, Port Aransas, TX. Church was closed and contractors could be seen inside the church constructing a wall. There was a “Restricted Use” sign on the outside of the building. We did not leave any of our brochures at this location.
- St. Joseph Catholic Church – 100 South Station Street, Port Aransas, TX. Nobody was at this location; however, the one of the doors to the sanctuary was open. We left copies of each of our brochures, a CD, a note, and a business card.
- First Baptist Church – 200 North Station Street, Port Aransas, TX. Church had sustained significant roof damage and was closed. We saw an old woman run a stop sign right in front of us. Unfortunately for her, there was a police officer sitting at the adjacent stop sign who watched her run the stop sign right in front of him. He pulled her over, but we’re not sure if he issued a ticket.
- Community Presbyterian Church – 113 South Alister Street, Port Aransas, TX. Church had sustained significant roof damage and was closed.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

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FROM: Greg Valentine, Joyce Johnson, Whitney Bynum, & Sam Porter
SUBJECT: Summary Activity by the Team
COUNTY: Aransas
DATE: 10/03/2017

SUMMARY:

CLs scoped out Copano Village, Copano Point, and Copano Cove:

- Significant devastation in the area (see photos).
- This area is in the purview of Aransas County (Rockport DRC, Rockport EOC, etc.)



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QUESTIONS/COMMENT:

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FROM: Liz Blackburn, Rebecca Wenner, David Robertson, and Delia Garcia
SUBJECT: Summary Activity by the Team
COUNTY: Nueces (Corpus Christi)
DATE: 10/03/2017

SUMMARY:

Salvation Army

- Located at 1802 Buford Street
- Contact: Spoke with Elizabeth Alejandro
- They were providing groceries, mostly people displaced from Rockport.
- Provided her with pamphlets and a copy of the CD.

Habitat for Humanity (Administrative Office)

- Located at 5541 Bear Lane #236
- Contact: Spoke with Bridgette Breaux, email admin@corpuschritihfh.org
- We provided her with a copy of some of the pamphlets, and will be sending her copies of the pdfs.
- Habitat is not assisting with mucking, but will be assisting with repairs and building new homes. Texas Habitat is organizing a large event for the end of October.
- If people need assistance, they can call 361-289-1740 to be referred to their big Texas event in October.

Habitat for Humanity (Restore)

- Located at 1901 Lipton Street
- Spoke with Barb Sweeney, the Executive Director
- We provided them with copies of the pamphlets, and we e-mailed her copies of the pdfs.

Lowes

- Spoke with Mona, they had a copy of the mold handout that was sent to them by their headquarters. We provided her with additional pamphlets, including the Spanish mold guide.

Seashore Middle School Academy

- Provided brochures, they had also received copies of them from EPA and had shared them on their website.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: NA **COMMUNITY CONCERNS:** NA

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FROM: Liz Blackburn, Rebecca Wenner, David Robertson, and Delia Garcia
SUBJECT: Summary Activity by the Team
COUNTY: Aransas (Rockport, Fulton)
DATE: 10/03/2017

SUMMARY:

Rockport

Ace Hardware

- Provided Tammy with copies of the pamphlets, she will place them on their bulletin board and place them in the employee lounge

Rockport Urgent Care

- They are seeing many people that have become ill due to mold
- Provided them with copies of our brochures
- They were having mold issues themselves, and are remediating them
- Employees told us moldicide and bleach were not working to lessen mold issues.

Carpet Tile and Stone

- Spoke with Stephanie, and dropped off brochures.

La Quinta Inn and Suites

- Left some brochures at the registration desk.

ER 24 Hour Emergency Room and Urgent Care

- Left brochures with them.

Aransas County District Attorney's Office

- Dropped off brochures at their temporary offices
- Said they would distribute and they employees were interested in mold remediation.

Sears

- Dropped off brochures

Sand Dollar RV Park

- Dropped off brochures

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- Said they were struggling with mold and indoor air quality.

City of Fulton

- Dropped off brochures, including some in Vietnamese

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

- How to deal with mold in RVs

COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

- Mold in RVs

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FROM: Whitney Bynum, Sam Porter, Delia Garcia
SUBJECT: Summary Activity by the Team
COUNTY: Bee (Beeville)
DATE: 10/04/2017

SUMMARY:

Texas Health and Human Services

- Google maps indicated that the facility was located at 1701 N. Frontage Rd. in Beeville, TX, but upon our arrival we learned that they had relocated. That Blue Ribbon Country Store currently occupies that space.
- Texas Health & Human Services Department - Region 11 is now located at 1800 S. Washington Street in Beeville, TX.
- Spoke with Adriana, the Office Coordinator, and provided her with hardcopies of brochures as well as a CD with additional pdf files.

Beeville FEMA

- Located at Chase Field Complex outside of Beeville
- Spoke with security guard who informed us that the Board of Directors meeting is tonight.
- No decisions have been made as to how (of if) FEMA will utilize the space or future plans of the 31 RVs located there.
- FEMA, the State of Texas, and the Beeville Development Authority will meet to make a final decision.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: NA

COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

- Adriana with Texas Health and Human Services in Beeville was happy to receive information because they have been going to Rockport to assist with inoculations. She was happy to also receive materials in Vietnamese.

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FROM: Whitney Bynum, Sam Porter, Delia Garcia
SUBJECT: Summary Activity by the Team
COUNTY: Karnes (Karnes City)
DATE: 10/04/2017

SUMMARY:

Texas Health and Human Services

- Located at 417 S. Panna Maria Ave., Karnes City, TX.
- Provided them with copies of brochures and a CD with additional pdf files.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

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FROM: Whitney Bynum, Sam Porter, Delia Garcia
SUBJECT: Summary Activity by the Team
COUNTY: Dewitt (Cuero)
DATE: 10/04/2017

SUMMARY:

FEMA DRC

- Located in parking lot across from Dewitt County Health Department.
- Spoke with Geneva Wilson, their Mitigation Specialist, and provided her with copies of requested brochures (mold remediation, septic tank, water wells).
- They are located in Cuero from Monday – Wednesday, and at the Refugio County Fairgrounds from Thursday-Saturday.

Dewitt County Health Department

- Located at 115 N. Gonzalez Street, Cuero, TX.
- Spoke with Lisa Campos, and provided her with copies of brochures and a CD with additional pdf files.
- Lisa informed us that there was a little bit of damage in their county, mostly tree and roof damage.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

- Lisa Campos with Dewitt County Health Department indicated she was happy we stopped by because some people had been asking about mold and she wasn't sure what to tell them.

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FROM: Whitney Bynum, Sam Porter, Delia Garcia
SUBJECT: Summary Activity by the Team
COUNTY: Goliad
DATE: 10/04/2017

SUMMARY:

Texas Department of Health Services

- Located at 329 W. Franklin Street, Goliad, TX (Goliad Annex)
- The office was closed due to the nurse attending a meeting.
- Visited the Texas A&M Agriculture Extension, located across the hall, and spoke with their receptionist and explained the purposed of our visit. She agreed to deliver our materials (brochures and CD) to the Health Services Department.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

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FROM: Greg Valentine, Rebecca Wenner, Liz Blackburn
SUBJECT Summary Activity by the Team
COUNTY: Nueces (Corpus Christi)
DATE: 10/04/2017

SUMMARY:

FEMA DRC

Contact: David Chevrolet

- FEMA stand was blown over by storms last night, so they have been closed today and will be closed until Friday.
- Provided EPA info packets. Noted that FEMA employees don't have CD drives.
- FEMA personnel mentioned that Goliad County has well issues. Contact unaware of any well or septic issues in Corpus Christi.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

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FROM: Greg Valentine, Rebecca Wenner, Liz Blackburn
SUBJECT Summary Activity by the Team
COUNTY: San Patricio (Ingleside)
DATE: 10/04/2017

SUMMARY:

Ingleside (City Building and Codes Department)

- Spoke with a very new receptionist.
- Said that the Building and Codes Department permits contractors that do remodels and fix ups. Wasn't sure who did what or where the inspector was. Wasn't sure where the health department was.
- Provided mold info packets.

Ingleside (roofing company)

- Provided mold packets in English and Spanish.

Ingleside (FEMA)

- Spoke with Disaster Mitigation again.
- Left additional EPA information in English and Spanish, as requested.
- Mentioned that EPA links would not allow her to print. Unclear if this is a printer problem or problem with a link.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

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FROM: Greg Valentine, Rebecca Wenner, Liz Blackburn
SUBJECT Summary Activity by the Team
COUNTY: Kleberg
DATE: 10/04/2017

SUMMARY:

Kenedy- Kleberg County Courthouse

Contact: Tomas r. Sanchez, Jr., Emergency Management Coordinator,
tsanchez@co.kleberg.tx.us, (316) 595-8527

- Spoke with Mr. Sanchez.
- Asked us to visit the Corpus Christi and Alice County emergency coordinators.
- Provided EPA packet on mold.
- Said there was no hurricane damage in Kleberg County, but the power went out temporarily.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

COMMUNITY CONCERNS:

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FROM: Greg Valentine, Rebecca Wenner, Liz Blackburn
SUBJECT Summary Activity by the Team
COUNTY: Aransas (Rockport)
DATE: 10/04/2017

SUMMARY:

Rockport EOC meeting

CLs went to the EOC meeting at 4:00 pm in Rockport, Texas:

- Approximately 45 people at the meeting.
- Chief of Police said that they need to learn a new word, “normal”, and no one should be allowed to fall through the cracks.
- Long Term Recovery – writing long term recovery plan for when they transition.
- Debris recovery and housing are main concerns of the county.
- AEP – contractor working on electricity recovery. Still have issues with blinking traffic lights and trees falling on electrical lines and causing electrical outages.
- ~80 – 100 tickets being working on daily; ~50 trouble calls each day.
- Public Works – back to regular work schedule. Trying to install new stop signs at uncontrolled intersections (~200 – 250 stops signs being replaced).
- Volunteer Fire Department – new normal starts Friday. DFW and other area fire departments are leaving and the locals will restart their duties on Friday. Fire Departments that came in spent off time clearing debris with the 15 chainsaws they brought with them.
- Curfew was lifted at 4:15 pm today
- Raising boats and a 15’ x 45’ building being removed from Rockport, TX in the harbor and area waters.
- UT – San Antonio is giving free shots at the Rockport Relief Camp; another group is giving shots at the Rockport DRC
- Small Business Association: 240 loans, \$19,710,800 (Aransas County); 13 loans, \$186,000 (Fulton); and 193 loans, \$16,533,700 (Rockport)
- FEMA: 12,797 folks processed, \$20,890,242 (Aransas County)
- October 31st deadline for companies that had to shut down due to Hurricane Harvey to register with FEMA.
- October 10th deadline to file for assistance with Red Cross; issues with filing with Red Cross: people trying to file find out that someone else already filed using their address, people make mistakes filling out the forms.

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- Chief of Police asked if people should go to the Red Cross at the Rockport DRC to get assistance with issues above, Red Cross rep said yes.
- Partnering with Vietnamese Buddhist temple to reach out to Vietnamese population.
- Aransas County ~\$295 million (20% loss (by value)) by Hurricane Harvey. They are approximately 50% done with the county.
- Spectrum ~90% done with Rockport area (hooking up cable). Working in Lamar and Holiday Beach.
- United Methodist Committee on Relief are housing intake forms.
- Needs: removal and housing are immediate needs.
- Debris Cleanup: 100,000 cubic yards picked up by TXDOT; 448,000 cubic yards picked up by Crowder. Approximately 38% complete
- Citizens complaining things are moving fast enough. Crowder brought in 1 new truck today, and will bring in 8 more tomorrow.
- They're putting mosquito donuts in all standing water and they will be spraying this weekend.
- Getting replacement street lights from vendor is an issue and will be for the next couple of weeks.
- Provided CD's to Red Cross, FEMA director, and long term recovery director.
- Spoke with Aransas County Environmental Health Department – struggling with debris collection. Provided several EPA information packets.
- Next meeting, 9:00 am, Friday, October 6, 2017.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:

- Additionally, we spoke to Kingsville City-County health department. Mentioned they are having problems with mold (not as a result of hurricane Harvey) and are in need of mold training. Contact is Emilio Garcia – egarcia@cityofkingsville.com

COMMUNITY CONCERNS: